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UNCLAS OTTAWA 000653

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E.O. 12958: N/A

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SUBJECT: CANADA: RESPONSE TO DEMARCHE ON CSW WOMEN'S
ECONOMIC ADVANCEMENT RESOLUTION

REF: STATE 030251

1. (U) Poloff delivered the demarche (per reftel) concerning a U.S. draft resolution, Economic Advancement of Women, to be presented at the 49th session of the Commission on the Status of Women (CSW), to Chantale Walker, Policy Advisor in the International Women's Equality Division at Foreign Affairs Canada (FAC), on February 23. Walker thanked us for the demarche points and the opportunity to review the draft resolution, stating that she would coordinate with her colleagues at FAC, including Nell Stewart, Senior Advisor in the Women's Equality Division, who is representing FAC at the CSW.

2. (SBU) Walker provided the following comment on the draft resolution to poloff via e-mail received March 1:

(Quote) Although this draft resolution covers some education and poverty elements, it does so in a selective rather than holistic manner, and therefore, the resolution is very market-oriented and entrepreneurship-focused. We would encourage this draft to be more comprehensive and in so doing, inclusive of the various elements of the "Women and the economy" objective of the Beijing PFA, so that issues such as social security, unpaid work, employment or pay equity, and work/family balance are included. We have attempted to work with the current text and have made suggested changes in the attached draft to address these concerns. (Unquote)

3. (U) The attached draft referred to in the statement above has been forwarded by poloff to IO/EDA (Janet Shannon/Deborah Linde) via e-mail on March 1.

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